

**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners  
April 8, 2004**

**Teleconference Minutes**

A teleconference for the Board of Medical Examiners was held at 3:00 p.m. in the Magnolia Room located on the First Floor of the Cordell Hull State Office Building on April 8, 2004.

**Members in attendance electronically:** Drs. Charles White, Mitchell Mutter, Sam Barnes, David Cunningham, Barbara Engelhardt, Robert Ripley, Ms. Nina Yeiser, and Ms. Deloris Johnson

**Member in attendance:** Dr. George Eckles

**Staff Present:** Dr. Larry Arnold, Consultant, Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director; Robert J. Kraemer, Jr., General Counsel; Jerry Kosten, Rules Coordinator, Sandra Powell, Administrator, Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager

A roll call was held to determine if each participant could hear the response of the other. Ms. Arnold stated the meeting was being held to discuss Senate Bill 3405 with a proposed amendment by Rep. Harmon. The proposed amendment created broad exception to the Board's seven-year rule. Ms. Johnson made a motion to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically and Ms. Yeiser seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Barnes to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically by determining that the matter to be discussed met the following requirements: The subject matter required timely action, the physical presence of all members was not possible considering the period of time required for action, and the participation by some or all of the members of the board by electronic or other means was necessary. Dr. White seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Cunningham chaired the meeting. All participants were asked to identify themselves each time they spoke. Dr. White made the following motion:

“Whereas, the Board of Medical Examiners was established over one hundred years ago to promote and maintain the quality of medical care delivered in Tennessee; and Whereas quality of medical care is maintained by requiring timely testing of physicians, who may want to practice in this State;,, therefore be it Resolved, that the members of the Board of Medical Examiners by unanimous vote support Senate Bill 3405 without any amendments that would increase the time frames for completing the three steps of the USMLE. Senate Bill 3405 authorized the Board to create exceptions to the seven year time frame by Rule if it so chooses in the future. Further, we direct that this motion be forwarded to the appropriate Committee of the House of Representative of the State.”

Ms. Yeiser seconded the motion and the motion was accepted by roll call vote unanimously. The teleconference meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

These minutes were ratified by the Board on May 18, 2004.

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